

PROCEEDINGS OF THE CLUB

MARCH 8, 1910

The meeting was held at the American Museum of Natural History, beginning at 8.15 P. M. Mr. Charles Louis Pollard acted as temporary chairman, giving way soon to Vice-president Barnhart. Forty persons were present.

The minutes of the meeting of February 23 were read and approved.

The committee appointed to consider ways and means of increasing the influence and efficiency of the Club presented a report, which was read by its chairman, Miss Jean Broadhurst.

An application from Professor J. C. Arthur of Purdue University, Lafayette, Indiana, for a grant of \$200 from the Esther Herrman Fund of the New York Academy of Sciences to further his researches upon the Uredinales was read and was ordered to be forwarded to the Council of the Academy with the endorsement of the Club.

The editor asked permission to publish as one of the Club's *Memoirs* a paper by Mr. O. Butler of Cornell University, entitled "Observations on the California vine disease". It was voted to refer the matter to the editorial board with power to act.

The secretary called the attention of members of the Club to a communication from Rev. L. H. Lighthipe, offering for sale back volumes of the *Bulletin*, *Memoirs*, and *Torreya*.

The following new members were then elected: Walter C. Cameron, 239 West 136th St., New York City; Rev. H. M. Denslow, D.D., 2 Chelsea Square, New York City; Bernard O. Dodge, 528 West 123d St., New York City; Carl A. Schwarze, 92 Stagg St., Brooklyn, N. Y.; and Sereno Stetson, 507 West 113th St., New York City.

The announced scientific program consisted of a lecture by Dr. Mel T. Cook on "Cuba: The People and Country".

The lecture was of a popular character and was illustrated by numerous lantern-slides. The speaker first showed views of the city of Havana, of its parks with their luxuriant tropical vegetation, and of the old fortifications which are being over-run by

various plants, causing the disintegration of the massive walls. Among such plants *Rhytidophyllum crenulatum* is the most prominent. Attention was next directed to the suburban driveways and country roads in both winter and summer conditions and to the trees that have been planted along their sides. These plantings consist principally of *Ficus religiosa*, *Ficus nitida* (which is commonly known as laurel), *Terminalia Catappa* (popularly called almond), royal poincianas, royal palms, and other well-known ornamental trees of the tropics. The palms are made use of for many purposes; they furnish shade for tobacco, and their leaves are employed for wind-breaks, in the construction of houses, in making coverings for tobacco bales, in making rain-coats, etc.

Allusion was made also to the work of the Agricultural Experiment Station at Santiago de las Vegas and to the agricultural conditions and products of various parts of the island. The speaker also showed views from thinly settled portions of Cuba, giving an idea of the scenery and the character of the indigenous vegetation.

Adjournment followed.

MARSHALL A. HOWE,
Secretary pro tem.

OF INTEREST TO TEACHERS

SOME REFLECTIONS UPON BOTANICAL EDUCATION IN AMERICA

BY W. F. GANONG

In the address with which he welcomed the American Association for the Advancement of Science to Columbia University three years ago, President Butler centered his remarks on a matter of the first scientific and educational importance. He said, in effect, that for a quarter century he had been a close and friendly observer of the progress of the sciences in education, that during this time he had seen them win almost complete recogni-

* Address of the retiring president of the Botanical Society of America, delivered at Boston, December 28, 1909. Reprinted by permission from *Science*, March 4, 1910.